

## THE BOXTROLLS

By Lorraine Viade, PsyD



*The Boxtrolls* is a visually enthralling, charming, entertaining movie that will have you smiling from beginning to end. The action takes place in London where the unusual creatures live among the items to be shipped to various places. The story is pretty simple. A child is abducted and raised by trolls. When he gets older, he discovers his purpose and identity does not come from who gave birth to him, but from who raised and loved him along the way. The stop-action photography is so detailed that, at first, you think it is a computer-generated series of images. But it isn't. That is the magic in this movie.

*The Boxtrolls* goes beyond the path first laid down by such classics as *The Nightmare Before Christmas*. The character of Eggs is so much fun and easy to follow from one adventure to the next. There are a number of inside jokes that some adults will appreciate. It takes a little while to adjust to the British accents, but once you are inside the world of *The Boxtrolls*, you will feel right at home. I really enjoyed the way the story deals with loss and discovery, and re-defines the concept of family for a new generation. It was funny with a heart and message.

*The Boxtrolls* is about what is inside each of us and how that impacts how we get along in the world. *The Boxtrolls* is not scary and the audience I saw it with seemed pretty happy afterwards. The children were quiet and laughing in the right places. It is that kind of feel good movie that is just right for the season. Bravo to the movie makers who made *The Boxtrolls*. Keep bringing us more interesting worlds to visit.

I give *The Boxtrolls* four boxes.

